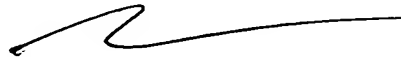


**REMARKS**

Claims 1 - 15 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 5 and 9-13 are amended to eliminate multiple dependencies. Prompt and favorable consideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 6, 2005

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